

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the due consideration given the application. The specification has been amended to insert headings.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. The claims have been amended to improve their language in a non-narrowing fashion.

No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this response.

Election/Restriction

The application has been restricted into the following Groups:

Group I, claims 1-7 and 11, drawn to a window, and

Group II, claims 8-10 and 12, drawn to a method of producing the window of claim 1 of Group I.

Group I, claims 1-7 and 11, is elected with traverse.

As is set forth in MPEP 803, there are two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions:

(A) The inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; **and**

(B) There would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required.

In this case, claims 8-10 and 12 depend on claim 1 of Group I. Thus, a finding of allowability of claim 1 of group I over

the art would render the claims of Group II instantly allowable. There is thus no burden placed upon the examiner to rejoin and examine all the claims of the present invention.

Additionally, the Official Action refers to U.S. Patent 6,095,986 and U.S. Patent 5,076,492 to assert that Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features.

By this, the Office has already performed consideration and search has already been performed and there is thus no additional burden to continue the prosecution of all the claims of the present invention.

Rejoinder and consideration of all the claims on the merits is accordingly respectfully requested. Alternately, rejoinder is respectfully requested upon indication of allowable subject matter of Group I.


Conclusion

Early and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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